

Serial No. 09/653,782

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REMARKS

Thorough examination of the application is sincerely appreciated.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1 - 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent 4,977,611 (hereinafter "Maru") in view of U.S. Patent 5,369,798 (hereinafter "Lee").

Further to the Final Office Action, claims 8, 10 and 11 were indicated to be allowable over the prior art of record.

To expedite the prosecution of the application and without conceding any statements or waiving any arguments in the Final Office Action, Applicant's claims are amended as follows: claims 1 - 5 are canceled without prejudice.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is earnestly solicited. However, if for any reason this application is not considered to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Please charge any additional fees associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

October 4, 2006

By/LARRY LIBERCHUK/
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ART UNIT 2618

SERIAL NO. 09/653,782


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I certify that this document consisting of SIX (6) pages (RCE/AMENDMENT including this cover sheet) is being transmitted via facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at the telephone number set forth above on October 5, 2006.


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